

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 9

75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, California

May 2014

To: Property Owners, Tenants, and Interested Parties

From: Penny Reddy, EPA Groundwater Cleanup Project Manager

Subject: EPA Communication Plan for Groundwater Cleanup Pilot Test Work in Former Facility-

specific Source Areas at the Middlefield-Ellis-Whisman (MEW) Superfund Site in Mountain

View, California

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has directed the MEW responsible parties to optimize and aggressively accelerate the groundwater cleanup actions at the Middlefield-Ellis-Whisman (MEW) Superfund Site in Mountain View, CA. A significant component of this optimization effort may include the implementation of pilot tests of alternative cleanup technologies in the former facility-specific source contamination areas to accelerate the cleanup of trichloroethene (TCE) in groundwater (see Figure). TCE contamination in shallow groundwater is a source of potential subsurface vapor intrusion into overlying buildings. As long as TCE remains in the shallow groundwater, the potential vapor intrusion into indoor air of buildings continues to be a potential health concern to building occupants. EPA has developed a communication plan to provide interested stakeholders, property owners and tenants information about the proposed alternative groundwater cleanup technology pilot tests and to provide an opportunity for interested parties to review and comment before EPA approves the pilot test work plans and the pilot test work begins.

Each of the former MEW facility specific source areas are at different stages of cleanup and may require different types of groundwater optimization cleanup actions. For many of the source areas, the first phase of work includes high resolution sampling to better characterize the source areas in order to better target the TCE cleanup. The second phase of work may include optimizing extraction well networks or implementation of pilot tests.

EPA Communication Plan for Alternative Groundwater Technology Pilot Test Work Plans

- EPA will make available the draft pilot test work plans on EPA's website
 www.epa.gov/region9/mew
 and provide an informational flyer or fact sheet to interested parties
 and stakeholders including the property owners and tenants of neighboring and downgradient
 properties of the pilot test area. The informational flyer/fact sheet will summarize the proposed
 pilot test and include a link to where the draft work plan can be found.
- 2. EPA will provide a timeframe for interested parties and stakeholders to review and provide written comments. EPA will also provide an opportunity for interested parties to meet with EPA to discuss comments and questions on the proposed pilot test work. EPA will consider all comments received and determine whether any revisions to the work plans are needed.

Thank you for your continued interest, support, and input in the ongoing cleanup work at the MEW Superfund Site. Please contact Penny Reddy, EPA Groundwater Cleanup Project Manager, at (415) 972-3108 or reddy.penny@epa.gov for more information or if you have any questions.

